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Docket No.: FMC-ADV-009/60289
PATENTSerial Number: 10/528,631
Filed: November 16, 2005**REMARKS****Status of the Claims**

Claims 1-12 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-12 have been subject to a restriction requirement.

By way of this amendment, new claim 13 has been added.

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-13 will be pending.

Summary of the Amendment

New claim 13 refers to an embodiment of the invention as claimed in claim 1. New claim 13 reads on Group I of the restriction requirement. No new matter has been added.

Restriction Requirement

Claims 1-12 have been subject to a restriction requirement wherein Applicants have been required to elect one invention from the following groups:

Group I, claims 1-7, drawn to isolated nucleic acids encoding a myosin light chain kinase, fragments thereof, and vectors comprising said products; and

Group II, claims 8-12, drawn to said kinase.

Applicants provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-7, and new claim 13 with traverse.

Applicants respectfully urge that while the inventions claims in Groups I and II are patentably distinct from each other, the examination of all of the claims would not be an undue burden on the office. The searches of the two patentably distinct invention would overlap significantly.

If the restriction requirement is maintained, Applicants respectfully request that claims 1-7 and 13 be examined and that claims 8-12 be withdrawn from consideration.

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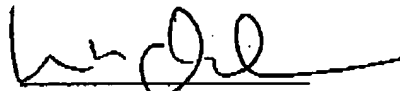
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The claims are in condition for allowance. The examination of claims and passage to allowance are respectfully requested. An early Notice of Allowance is therefore earnestly solicited. Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned attorney at 215.665.5592 to clarify any unresolved issues raised by this response.

As indicated on the transmittal accompanying this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any debit or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1275.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark DeLuca
Registration No. 33,229

Date: Nov 3 2006
COZEN O'CONNOR, P.C.
1900 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-3508
Telephone: 215.665.5592
Facsimile: 215.701.2100